

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

Regional Transportation Authority Plan for Pima County

A Resolution of the State Transportation Board supporting the Regional Transportation Authority Plan (RTA Plan) of the Pima Association of Governments developed in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Transportation.

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2004, Governor Janet Napolitano signed legislation re-establishing the Pima Association of Governments as a Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), and

WHEREAS, the new Regional Transportation Authority Board held its first meeting and elected officers on September 10, 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Authority, in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Transportation, developed a 20-Year multi-modal transportation plan that would be funded by a voter-approved excise tax of not more than a half-cent, and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Transportation and the State Transportation Board policies emphasize the need for an integrated, balanced, safe and multi-modal regional transportation system that serves the mobility needs of people, services and goods in Arizona, and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Transportation and the State Transportation Board seek to ensure that this transportation system serves all parts of the State, Pima County and all segments of the population, and

WHEREAS, the increase in population and travel will continue to be significant challenges to the southern portion of the State, including Pima County, and no single mode of transportation can address the challenges of this region, and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Transportation and the State Transportation Board support public transportation and arterial street concepts to strengthen and support infrastructure development, and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Transportation and the State Transportation Board also support the development of infrastructure for bicycle and pedestrian modes of travel, and

WHEREAS, growth throughout the region requires new roadway capacity and innovative solutions to accommodating an urban area of nearly one million people, and

WHEREAS, the costs of needed transportation improvements exceeds revenues from both Federal and State sources, and

WHEREAS, the RTA Plan provides for over \$2.1 billion of projects over the next 20 years, funded with a voter approved countywide half-cent excise tax, and

WHEREAS, these regional revenues will be used to leverage state and federal dollars for roadway and transit improvements, and

WHEREAS, the State Transportation Board moves to endorse the RTA Plan recommended by the RTA Citizen's Advisory Committee and RTA Technical/Management Committee and approved by the RTA Board, and urges the Arizona Department of Transportation staff to continue work with the RTA staff and to assist in any way possible to implement the plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the State Transportation Board strongly supports the cooperatively developed multi-modal Regional Transportation Authority Plan adopted by the RTA Board on November 30, 2005 and accepted by the Pima County Board of Supervisors on December 13, 2005, to be presented to the Pima County voters on May 16, 2006.

Passed and adopted by the State Transportation Board this 17th day of February, 2006.

**James W. Martin, Chairman
State Transportation Board**